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REMARKS

We prepared the attached background brief on the Agency's military reserve program for the DCI's information. I thought Mr. May might find it of interest in connection with his 22 October presentation to the JMRTC.



*You wanted
to read up on "Reservists"*

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OD/A Registry
File TRAININGBACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE AGENCY'S
MILITARY RESERVE PROGRAM

1. When the CIA was established in September 1947, a great number of its most responsible positions were of necessity staffed by individuals who had had counterpart experience in the Armed Forces. As it turned out, many of these people had retained their military affiliation by acceptance or maintenance of commissioned status in the reserve programs of the several Armed Forces. Hence, it soon became apparent that steps would have to be taken to ensure CIA the uninterrupted services of its employee reservists in the event of a general mobilization. As a result, negotiations were undertaken with the military services in 1948 with a view to establishing CIA sponsored reserve training units. []

2. The first Agency-sponsored unit to be authorized was an Army unit. Activated in March 1949, it was followed by an Air Force unit in May 1949, a Navy unit in February 1950, and a Marine Corps unit in February 1952. All four of these units exist today, but due to changes in Department of Defense and individual Military Department reserve policies and concepts, they have been subject to frequent reorganization and redesignations. []

3. In 1955, the DCI sought and obtained approval from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower) for an overall Agency military reserve program that would enable CIA's military reservists to maintain their military proficiency and to earn promotions and retirement points while being assured of certain assignment to the Agency in the event of mobilization (thereby meeting the priority portion of the Agency's envisaged emergency military personnel requirements and reducing the number of people that would have to be furnished by the Military Departments). In the absence of an authorized program of this type, many Agency reservists would have been forced to transfer to outside units or, alternatively, to resign their reserve commissions. []

4. The idea of combining the Agency's various reserve training units under some sort of joint command was rejected in 1955 and for several years thereafter. By the early 1960's, however, the implications for the Agency of increasing policy-level preoccupation with the problems of counter-insurgency and limited war in remote areas made the concept of centralized control and training seem more attractive. Thus, in mid-1962, the Agency's Army, Air Force, and Marine reserve units were organized — with DoD approval — into the Joint Military Reserve Training Command (JMRTC). The Department of the Navy has consistently refused to allow the Agency's Navy Reserve unit to be included in the JMRTC on the grounds that Navy reservists must be trained in specifically naval skills. Nevertheless, it does allow Agency Navy reservists to participate in those JMRTC training sessions that it deems suitable from the standpoint of Navy requirements. []

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5. A provisional organization that has undergone several shifts in structure, mission, and methods of operation in response to changes in the global, policy, and bureaucratic environments, the JMRTC lies outside the military chain of command. It is, instead, answerable to the Director of Personnel, who has been assigned primary responsibility for the training and administration of Agency military reservists. Exercising its responsibilities through a joint staff, the JMRTC plans and implements a unified annual inactive duty training program (September-May), manages a special projects program in support of the Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, monitors the project work undertaken by the Agency's Air Force and Marine reservists for their respective services, and assists the Military Personnel Branch of the Office of Personnel with the development and management of a broad, year-round active duty training program. The latter program, which generally involves annual tours of standard two-week duration, presently includes assignment to various military schools and training centers as students or instructors, "counter part" (working) tours with various Defense or Service Department components and major military commands, and participation in joint or uniservice military exercises. []

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6. The current Commander of the JMRTC is [] The commanders of the Agency's Army, Air Force, and Marine reserve units serve as his deputies. The Army unit presently has 167 members, the Air Force 106 members, the Marine unit 22 members, and the independent Navy unit 21 members for a total of 316. []

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7. Attendance at the weekly inactive duty training meeting in the Auditorium does not, however, reflect the numbers cited above. Navy participation is, as previously indicated, sporadic. Some 81 Agency military reservists are presently serving outside CONUS []

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[] In addition, about 115 Agency Army, Air Force, and Marine reservists are engaged in project work which generally satisfies both their training and retirement point requirements. As a result, even when the Navy unit participates, there are rarely more than 100 Agency reservists present at any given weekly training session. []

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8. The Agency derives a number of intangible benefits from the inactive and active duty training that its military reservists receive. These include the development of useful working level contacts and the training of some Agency reservists in skills related to their civilian jobs. []

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9. It is planned that Agency reservists will be utilized upon mobilization as part of the probable overall Armed Forces augmentation of the Agency and that they will be employed in ways designed to capitalize on their military and/or military/civilian skills and knowledge. They should be especially useful in liaison roles because of their knowledge of Agency and complementary understanding of the Armed Forces. Substantive joint Agency/military projects constitute another contemplated use, as do such appropriate Agency in-house activities as may develop in a wartime situation. []

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